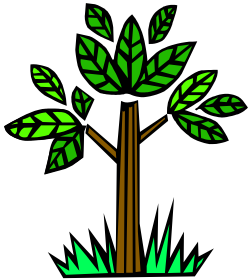


York County Office
100 County Drive, PO Box 532, Yorktown, Virginia 23690-0532
E-Mail: ex199@vt.edu
Web Site: www.yorkcounty.gov/vce or www.ext.vt.edu/offices/york



The Green Thumb

A Newsletter of Extension Horticultural Activities and
Events For York County Extension Volunteers

Vol. 5, Issue 8
August, 2004

Calendar of Events

Sep 1, 8:30am	Hampton Roads Agriculture Experiment and Research Center Field Day, VA Beach, www.vnla.org/fieldday2004.htm
Sep 4, 10:00am	Lawn Maintenance Clinic, Laurel Path Road, York County
Sep 7, 9:00am	Peninsula Master Gardener Training begins
Sep 11, 10:00am	Lawn Maintenance Clinic, Ken Matthews
Sep 18, 10:00am	Lawn Maintenance Clinic, Tradewinds Drive, York County
Sep 18	Virginia State Arboretum at Blandy Farm (education opportunity)
Sep 22, 12:00n	WHRO 89.5 HearSay – Live call-in gardening radio show
Sep 22, 6:30pm	4H Mums Project: Growing Mums for Fun and Profit
Sep 25, 10:00am	Lawn Maintenance Clinic, Poquoson Avenue, Poquoson
Sep 26	York County Master Gardener Home Coming Picnic
Oct 2, time TBD	Landscape Extravaganza at St Joan of Arc Church, Rt 17
Oct 5-9	2004 Northeast Regional Conference

Thursdays Work/Learn Day in the Learning Garden 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

For additions/corrections to the Calendar of Events contact Jody at 890-4940 or Dianne Taylor at 868-4090, e-mail: taylors@exis.net. The deadline for the Green Thumb is ALWAYS the 15th of the month, no exception.

E-mail changes: If you have changes to any of the methods of communication, please notify Jody. Jody will pass the word. We want to keep in contact with you. These changes will be posted to the weekly e-mails and will be in the Green Thumb.

Master Gardener Mission Statement

Our mission, as trained volunteers in partnership with the York County, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent, is to provide horticultural educational opportunities to the public through research-based horticultural programs and activities to enhance our environment, lives and community.

www.ext.vt.edu

Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments. Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, veteran status, national origin, disability, or political affiliation. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Notes from Jim

Greetings,

We have completed camp for this year and glad that it is behind us. Thank you to all the Master Gardeners who provided support for 4-H camp. We couldn't have done it without you. We are excited about the July 1 date, which triggered the announcement of the opening of the 4-H position in York County. The closing date is August 20. If you know of an interested individual please encourage them to apply at <https://jobs.vt.edu>.

We are looking forward to getting back to programming in September. This is wishing you a restful remainder of the summer.



York County Master Gardener Home Coming Picnic

Fun, entertainment and refreshment is only a few weeks away for all York County Master Gardeners and their families. We will be getting together this year in cooler weather with the theme of "home coming". Our wish is to see all MGs, whether active or inactive, that can possibly make it to this year's social on Sunday afternoon September 26. The picnic committee will be providing pork BBQ to go with the potluck item that you bring. An entertaining speaker will round off the occasion.

We will be asking you to RSVP this year so we can have an accurate head count for our planning and purchases. We will be getting back to you soon with specific details. Hank Scheele, 833-6362.



Landscape Extravaganza to be held on October 2, 2004

The Landscape Extravaganza is scheduled for October 2, 2004 at St. Joan of Arc Church on Rouet 17. It will begin with introductions and orientation at 8:45 AM. There will be 6 classes offered with a choice of three. The classes will be 50 minutes long and begin at 9:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 11:00 AM and will end at 12:00 noon. There is no cost to those who want to attend; however they must be registered in advance. As soon as I have the class schedule and the speakers lined up I will provide you with more information. Also, I need volunteers for moderators. We already have 25 Horticultural Extravaganza attendees signed up!

Dottie Poniatowski, 868-0750, poni6@cox.net

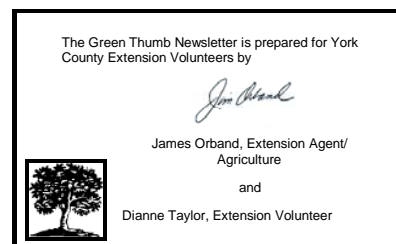


2005 Master Gardener College Dates

The 18th Annual Master Gardener College will be held from June 22 – 26, 2005. Mark your calendars now and begin making plans to join us for another great MG College event next year.

E-Mail Updates

Richard Wallsom = wallsom@cox.net



Fall Home Gardener Program

The Fall Home Gardener Program starts in October beginning the 9th and meeting for 4 consecutive Saturdays. The class will meet from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 n. at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church. Dates and topic areas are listed below:

October 9 - Lawns

October 16 - Bulbs and Propagation

October 23 - Landscaping for the Year Round Garden

October 30 - House Plants Winterizing Your Garden Equipment and other needs.



Volunteer Farm of Shenandoah

(For your information only, not an Extension program)

In anticipation of a bountiful harvest this fall, the nonprofit Volunteer Farm near Woodstock has established a web site to recruit at least 200 volunteers to help harvest vegetables that will go to some 500 food pantries in 25 Virginia counties and nine cities to help feed some 18,000 hungry people per week.

A spokesman for the farm said, "We have 5.5 acres planted and thanks to plentiful rain and our irrigation system we are looking at a harvest of tons of nutritious food. The plots were planted by 50 volunteers, and some drove more than 150 miles to tend their crops. Now we need others--perhaps churches, businesses, families, youth groups as well as individuals--to carpool to the farm this fall to devote a morning to harvesting to help feed their hungry neighbors."

Crops that are currently growing include bush beans, carrots, squash, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, and watermelon. The plots, mostly measuring one acre, were planted by the Woodstock United Methodist Youth, Evans Children's Home in Winchester, the Northern Virginia Master Gardeners, and two sisters: Hana Newcomb of Vienna and Lani Newcomb, DVM, of Herndon.

The new web site, www.VolunteerFarm.org, will post a calendar to help volunteers schedule their trips to the farm to correspond to the days that harvest help will be essential, and volunteers will be able to register online. The harvest schedule may be altered because of weather and growing conditions. The site will provide background on the Farm, information on obtaining a free growing plot, and numerous photos documenting the growing process.

All of the food grown on the farm is destined for the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, which operates four distribution centers providing nutritious food to some 500 food pantries, senior citizens outreach organizations, and Kids Cafes. As produce is harvested on the Volunteer Farm, it will be loaded in the field on Food Bank trucks and trailers for distribution to the hungry within a day or two to assure freshness.

The Volunteer Farm is a program of the World Foundation for Children, a nonprofit charity which has applied to the Internal Revenue Service for tax exemption under Section 501(c)3.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SPONSORS THE 2004 NORTHEAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 5-9, 2004

Now is the time to sign up for the University of Maryland's 2004 Northeast Regional Conference. The 2004 Regional Conference will consist of 5 great pre-tours; 3 great post-tours and 3 days of wonderful classes in between. You will enjoy an incredible array of fine speakers and topics including three nationally known plenary (keynote) speakers. We'll also have a wine and cheese party, a great banquet with entertainment, a live auction, an ice cream social, and an MG Marketplace that MGs have been handcrafting items for all year. Most workshops, classes and activities will be housed on site at the fully accessible Holiday Inn conference location.

Our conference plenary speakers are all nationally known and sought after presenters. They have been carefully chosen by the program committee and are reason enough to come to the conference. Some will wow you with their pictures. Some will entertain you tremendously and all will give you important and useful information. Here is our speaker schedule:

****Rick Darke** will talk on *The Livable Landscape*, blending artistry with environmental awareness to produce an interconnected, livable landscape that is both sustaining and sustainable. You'll learn how to celebrate and conserve the rich visual and biological diversity of our region.

****C. Colston Burrell**- *Envisioning a New Wilderness: Ecological Design for the Home Landscape*. Recreation of our soul through communion with nature can be part of our daily experience- right in our own gardens. Through proper design and plant choice, we can turn our front yards into beautiful wildlife havens that even the neighbors will enjoy.

****Felder Rushing**- *Passalongs and Other Tough Plants: Tried and True, Old and New Survivors for the 21st Century Gardens*. Just as Rumpelstiltskin spun gold from common straw, we can choose and combine tough low maintenance plants with other landscape features for a garden that requires little or no care. Enjoy this informative and entertaining talk that can make our lives a little easier.

Beginning August 1st we will be opening up the conference registration and tours to non- Master Gardeners, so for the best class selection, it would be advisable if all MGs get their registration forms in before August 1.

You can register using the form in the brochure or on the web at mastergardener.umd.edu. Click on "2004 NE MG Conference". You can then choose to look at the conference schedule "at a glance", workshops and lectures, the registration process, or other items of interest. If you need help, call Robin at our phone at 888-531-1754 between 10 am and 1 pm weekdays. Make plans now to join your fellow MGs in Timonium this October.

**Virginia Cooperative Extension
York County Office
100 County Drive
PO Box 532
Yorktown VA 23690-0532
(757) 890-4940 / Fax 890-4033
jorband@vt.edu**

We're on the Web!

www.yorkcounty.gov/vce

August 2004

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2 8:00am, Employee training, Grafton True Value, Lawns	3	4	5	6	7 10:00am, Lawn Renovation Clinic, Yorkshire Drive
			Jim on Annual Leave			
8	9 8:00am, Employee training, Grafton True Value, Understanding Fertilizers	10 9:00am, Peninsula MG Training planning meeting	11 6:30pm, 4-H Chrysanthemum Project – Marketing 12n, WHRO 89.5 Gardening Radio – Live Call-in.	12	13	14 10:00am, Lawn Maintenance Clinic, Grafton True Value
				Jim on Annual Leave		
15	16 8:00am, Employee training Grafton True Value, Lime	17	18	19	20	21
					Jim on Annual Leave	
22	23 8:00am, Employee training Grafton True Value, Mowing/Watering	24 2:00-5:00pm, Collection of Agricultural Pesticides, Service Drive	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				